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## UNITED STATES FOREST SERVICE-SOUTHERN REGION

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### PISGAH COLLECTS CLAIM FOR FIRE DAMAGE BASED ON NEW APPRAISAL METHOD

Fire control organizations operate on the basis that fires cause damage, and that unprotected forest areas suffer greater losses than similar protected areas. This philosophy is supported by current estimates of fire losses, which unfortunately are too often based on opinion, and not on factual knowledge of the nature of fire damage. But these estimates of fire loss should be the best possible to obtain, because the whole philosophy of fire control hinges on their accuracy. A system of appraisal is needed to replace opinion, which will provide a uniform mechanical method for measuring the factors of damage. A new technique of appraisal to meet this need has been developed by the Appalachian Station, for fires in southern Appalachian mountain types. This new system enables an appraiser to determine tangible forest fire losses immediately after a fire, by following a simple routine.

The system was tested recently on a 300-acre railroad fire which occurred on the Pisgah National Forest. A first claim for suppression costs plus damage based on cost of protection was refused by the railroad, on the grounds that no appreciable damage had resulted. Supervisor Bosworth was convinced that damage had occurred, but decided not to force the claim based on cost of protection, as it probably could not be sustained. At a conference between Regional Law Officer Mynatt and personnel of the Station and the Pisgah, it was decided to substitute another damage claim based on the new system because it seemed to offer the easiest, quickest, and most accurate method available of estimating the actual damage. Damages estimated by the new method were found to total \$274. Accordingly, a new claim for this amount, plus suppression costs, was presented, and the railroad paid without contesting.

It is planned to present this system of appraisal to fire control men in the form of a technical note, which will be out in the near future.

-- John J. Keetch  
Appalachian Forest Exp. Station

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BLUE PRINTS FOR NATIONAL DEFENSE

The Emergency Defense activities have reached this Region in several ways. National Forests lands have been turned over to the Army, numerous forest officers who hold commissions in the armed forces have been called into active duty and even the Regional Office Blueprint Laboratory has been "drafted".

For the past several years the laboratory has done work for local Federal agencies in addition to the regular work, but in July of last year the Constructing Quartermaster suddenly turned loose with a flood of work, and, as it came without warning and in such volumes that a week's production greatly exceeded a normal month's output; it swamped, but did not bog down, the laboratory. Dwight Thompson, Chief of the Laboratory, and his able assistant, Albert Benedict, were given a half a dozen extra men for helpers and they all went at the work with enthusiasm and efficiency. The normal day became two seven-hour shifts and sometimes a third shift would work throughout the night. Unfortunately, this work does not come in a steady flow but in large volumes and on short notice.

For a period of nine consecutive days in February, 9,600 yards of blueprint paper, or nearly five miles went through the blueprint machine, and trimming shears traveled about three times that distance. The paper moves through the machine at a rate of about six feet a minute. It is first exposed to a battery of arc lights for about one minute, moves through a weak bath of potash solution to "set" the blue on the paper, then down through a water shower and into a bath of clear water, then over into a tank with a 2% potash solution, and then another bath in clear water. After this the paper goes upwards through another shower and then over six electrically heated metal cylinders for the drying and ironing process, after which it is rewound on a roller. From time to time prints are removed from this roller, trimmed and assembled into sets. The entire operation is automatic and takes about five minutes from the time the unexposed paper goes into the machine until the finished prints are on the rewind roller ready for trimming.

The Regional Office is reimbursed for all work performed for other Federal agencies and the rate is based upon actual cost of production. There is a saving to the Government of from 30% to 50%

under commercial prices, and the total cost of such work since July 1, 1940 is now close to \$20,000.00. The Constructing Quartermaster has been, by far, the leading customer and nearly \$11,000.00 worth of work was done for that office alone between July 1, 1940 and January 31, 1941. The first ten days of February were very quiet, but then the storm broke and didn't ease up much until about the 26th. The cost for work performed during that period amounted to an additional \$2,700.00 and required a couple of night shifts in addition to the two day shifts, with no time out for holidays.

And, as though this wasn't enough for the Army, one of the helpers was called into active service with the National Guard, while the Chief Blueprinter became the proud father of a bouncing, budding blueprinter and potential Army recruit.

-- Viggo Christensen  
Regional Office

(Editor's note: And now the author of this has been called into service. It is with reluctance that we give up our efficient Chief of Drafting to take over his new duties as Major in the Engineer Corps. It is highly probable that he will be stationed at Camp Jackson, South Carolina and we hope to have frequent word from him there.)

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#### FORESTRY HAS BIG PLACE ON PROGRAM OF ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HUMAN RELATIONS

The Advisory Council on Human Relations, held its first meeting for 1941 in the Conference Room of the South Building, Washington, D. C. on February 20-22. Specific projects listed for consideration included:

The psychological study which has been made under the guidance of Dr. Shea and the University of Florida of incendiary tendencies in that State. A similar study under way on the Kisatchie National Forest.

A plan for devoting a large portion of Dr. Shea's future efforts to study and experimental testing of methods of fire prevention in various Regions.

Behavior patterns on the part of resident population - a subject on which there has already been some exchanges between the Council and the Forest Service.

Items for information and discussion also included the 1940 report of the committee on Revision of Signs and Posters; and a report by Dr. Shea on plans for use of aptitude tests.

The Council expects to give the Service in writing definite suggestions and advice arising from the meetings.

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IN MEMORIAM

The many friends of Wilbur R. Mattoon were grieved to learn of his death at his home in Washington on March 4. He had been in poor health since late in 1939 when he suffered a heart attack during a field trip in this Region.

"Matty", as he was affectionately known to his intimate friends, was a pioneer in southern forestry. In the days before the establishment of forest experiment stations in the South he carried on a considerable amount of research and investigative work. His early bulletins on the silviculture and management of southern pine species were among the very first sources of reference for use by practicing foresters. Hundreds of land-owners and foresters were taught by him through field demonstrations conducted in every state over a long period of years. He was a dendrologist of note and prepared a large number of state tree manuals. His photographs are among the best and most extensive in the Forest Service collection. One could go on and on reciting the things that "Matty" did which entitle him to distinction because he was able and versatile. Along with all of his other qualities he was a real gentleman and a friend.

"Matty" cannot be replaced.

- - C. F. Evans  
Regional Office

MORE ON TREE MEASUREMENT SALES

During the past couple of years there has been an increase in the number of circular letters, special contract clauses, and other information pertaining to the measurement sales passing over the desks of those Forest Officers interested in bringing in the cash for Uncle Sam. There has been some publicity given to some of the recent tree measurement sales made in Region 8; however, most of these have been on a mil-acre scale and do not reflect the same results that are to be expected from larger sales. As an item of interest and information, the development of tree measurement sales on the Davy Crockett Forest is being passed on to those who are working toward the common end of keeping Region 8 in the Timber Management limelight.

Since January 1, 1939, over two million feet of pine saw-timber have been handled by tree measurement procedure. Of this amount, approximately sixty percent has been in the form of sales and the remaining forty percent free administrative use to other

Governmental agencies. All cases were checked by an actual log scale tally of at least ten percent of the trees. The spread of differences has been from minus 14.3 percent to plus 7.4 percent. The weighted average percent difference in all cases checked to date shows that the tree estimates are 3.8 percent lower than the log scale check estimate. Just what would be an acceptable standard of accuracy for tree measurement sales is not known, and it makes little difference, provided the personnel doing the estimating are consistent in their work. It is quite logical to assume that under competitive market conditions consistently high estimates would be reflected by a lower stumpage price, and vice versa in case of lower estimates.

In Texas we feel that tree measurement can well take care of most of our pine sales in the future, providing the estimating personnel is not changed too often. Practice, experience, and familiarity with the timber are the main factors which go to make up the success of tree measurement sales. Unless something unforeseen develops within the next two months, the Davy Crockett plans to advertise its first Regional Forester's sale by tree measurement, consisting of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  million feet of loblolly and shortleaf pine.

It is believed that nearly everyone agrees to the several advantages of tree measurement over log scale, if properly administered, the greatest advantage being the saving in scaling. For the purpose of illustration, it is assumed that the entire annual cut of four million feet on the Davy Crockett is to be handled by tree measurement. Under this set-up the direct monetary saving would amount to approximately \$800 per year, based on a scaling cost of 20 cents per M. Why not more and bigger tree measurement sales?

-- H. C. Eriksson,  
Texas

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#### FILES - FELLOW WORKERS - FORESTS.

(A file Clerk Learns the Meaning of it All.)

This is how it happened: Once upon a time there was a file clerk who, having determined in her own mind that she wished to live, work and die on the Cherokee, was on the brink of becoming one of those specialists that Mr. Baker Brownell describes in his "The New Universe":

"Each in his own cell called a specialized department the experts are telling their beads, manipulating their sacred formulas, sinking their souls in the ritual of their special job and praying God their eyes will not wander to the green breadth of the meadows"... "Each in his own cell the specialists are building worlds, and their prayers and aspirations float out like pink and blue balloons that have no other contact with each other than the touch and jostle of hurrying towards the sky."

The superior officers of this file clerk - wise men they - sensed the danger ahead - they said: "Something must be done - we'll ask a week's detail to the Regional Office for her. That will set her straight."

So she went to Atlanta, to Mr. F. C. Stone, and was given into the care of thoughtful Miss Duncan who spared not time nor work in an effort to "route" that file clerk through all divisional offices. As this queer person who could talk of nothing but files shuttled back and forth between Timber Management and Engineering, Lands and Fiscal Control, Operation and CCC, Personnel Management and State and Private Forestry, and even had a fleeting glimpse of that little inner shrine where the Regional Forester's perfectly poised and clear-thinking secretary stands guard, there came a great readjustment in her sense of values. Questions that had seemed of huge importance faded out of focus and the real objectives of the Forest Service shifted into their proper perspective.

-- Frances Cope Van Wagner  
Cherokee File Clerk

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"GREATER LOVE HATH NO MAN THAN THIS ....."

The Service, and particularly the Ouachita Forest, lost the services of a loyal, hardworking Forest Officer in the untimely death of William E. Egger, Senior Forest Guard, early on the morning of February 11. His death from heart failure was probably hastened and may be directly connected with his efforts the day before.

Egger was scaling logs on the timber sale near Aly when an accident occurred. Three loggers were loading a truck when one of the logs slipped and knocked one of the loggers to the ground. After seeing that the man was comfortable, Egger hurried approximately three-fourths of a mile distant to his pickup, probably running most of the way, in order to telephone for medical assistance. Upon returning from the telephone, he was informed that some of the cutters had taken the injured man through the woods to the highway and he hastened after them to tell them where to go to meet the doctor. The logger was taken to the hospital where it was found he had a mangled arm.

This happened just before noon. Egger had lunch with the crew and finished the day scaling. After he arrived home he complained of some pain to his wife. A doctor was later called but all efforts to aid him were unsuccessful. Egger had recently recovered from influenza but seemed to feel all right at the time of returning to duty a few weeks earlier.

Egger worked as temporary forest guard on miscellaneous assignments beginning in 1920 on what was then known as the Eagleton District with his headquarters at Rich Mountain. He was given a Secretary's appointment as unskilled laborer on August 1, 1925. As an unskilled laborer he performed the duties of forest guard. Only recently he had been reclassified and promoted to Senior Forest Guard. Besides serving on the Eagleton Division he spent some time on the Shady Division and, since 1928, had been guard on what is now the Fourche Ranger District with headquarters at Plainview, Arkansas.

William E. Egger was born August 10, 1892 and was 48 years old at the time of his death. He left a wife, two sons, one daughter and a grandson. His was a service of self-sacrifice. He had the interest of the Service at heart at all times. I don't believe I have ever met a Forest Officer who was prouder of being an employee of the Forest Service than Willie Egger. He helped the new rangers in getting their feet on the ground. He knew human nature and often his advice helped others smooth out their difficult problems. He was known and respected by the users of the Forest and by everyone on his unit. His sympathetic ear often heard the problems of the people and many a time has his advice helped them ease their way. It is needless to say that we will miss Willie whose thoughts were first and foremost for the other fellow.

Our heartfelt sympathies and encouragement go out to Mrs. Egger and the family for the great loss they have suffered.

-- A. L. Nelson  
Ouachita

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PLANTING IN SOUTH CAROLINA GRADUATES FROM  
SWADDLING CLOTHES

March 1, when the last of 5,200,000 pine seedlings went in the ground, was a red letter day on the Sumter. The best showing any previous year was 800,000 trees.

Training and sufficient stock at hand had turned the trick. Training, by explanation, by demonstration, by correction. Training, through rewarding correct, speedy work with a place alongside the leader. Training that insured an eye on the guide, two steps, a correctly placed tray within easy reach, and a cleared spot. Training that put the bar into the clay with least effort, left the bar in one hand while the other hand reached for a tree and grasped it at the root collar. Training that thrust the roots of that tree deep into the ground, then out to a precise point, and brought a toe forward to nudge a bit of dirt into the slit. Training that brought backs erect in rhythm, bars into the ground to seal the job, heels behind trees to insure the job.

That's it, rhythm! The kind of rhythm that led Stanford in the Rose Bowl; that leads marching men over hill and dale; rhythm that places one thousand trees per man-day in the ground, where five hundred have gone before.

Said a foreman, "Yesterday I planted my worst field in four years, and yet the boys averaged nine hundred per man. In past years we got them trained just as we ran out of stock."

Said a junior forester, "I've run crews in sand, but this one is doing better in hard clay!"

Said a project superintendent, "We stirred up competition between crews and between camps."

Said a ranger, "I wish we had another million to plant."

Said the undersigned answering the ranger, "Cheer up ; all is not lost. You have five thousand acres of limby young growth in need of pruning. Let's try rhythm on that stuff." (And he is!)

-- Norman R. Hawley  
South Carolina

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SPECIAL ISSUE OF AMERICAN WEEKLY MAKING PROGRESS

Mr. Fleming has just returned from New York City where he went to confer with the editor of the AMERICAN WEEKLY magazine regarding final arrangements for the special forest fire prevention issue of that magazine on April 6. This issue of AMERICAN WEEKLY, a magazine distributed with 21 great newspapers and having a circulation of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  million, will carry a double-page illustrated lead article on the subject of forest fire prevention and control by Mr. Clapp. The article will carry a foreword by Secretary of Agriculture Wickard. Three hundred thousand posters reproduced from the James Montgomery Flagg painting on the magazine cover are now being lithographed and will be ready for shipment by the middle of next week. The AMERICAN WEEKLY will advertise Mr. Clapp's article in its associated 21 newspapers and over 260 radio stations. All Hearst newspapers editors are requested to cooperate with regional offices in preparing and printing localized forest fire prevention articles. This will also apply to the non-Hearst newspapers distributing the AMERICAN WEEKLY magazine.

-- W. O. Information Digest

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One tree will make a million matches, one match can burn a million trees.

PEOPLE ARE THE SAME

This morning the paper carried a story about a trusting man, sort of dumb in an overgrown, clumsy way, who was pointed out to a gang of gunmen by a woman whom he loved.

It also carried a story about the wife of a once-popular young movie star who will - as soon as her divorce becomes final - marry the producer who gave the first husband his start in pictures.

This in 1941.

I picked up another chronicle of events that happened some 2,000 years ago. Singularly enough, the same two stories were there.

There was the story of a girl named Delilah, who told a gang of Philistine warriors the secret of Samson's strength, and Samson - shorn of his strength and blinded - was chained to the turnstile that opened the gates of the Philistine stronghold.

There was the story of David, who looked into the garden across the street, and found the wife of one of his warriors attractive to the eye. King David sent Uriah, the warrior, into the thickest of the battle and - when news of his demise had been duly returned to the king - David appropriated the widow.

Human nature has not changed since the days of early Israel, nor have the human emotions and the ways in which those emotions express themselves.

The Oregonian is no different from the Mississippian, except that one may say "winterrrr-time" while the others say "in thu wintah." They are such slight variations of the same theme that the difference is barely noticeable.

America reacts as a unit - it always has, and will until the civilization that we know has been superseded by something quite different. This is because we are alike - all of us.

The Van Sweringens who built a railroad empire reaching across the continent and were regarded as awesome God-heads of finance and industry, were found to be entirely human after all - when the fiction that was their empire crumbled.

The Latin King, set up as hereditary ruler of his country, forsook his throne twice and set his infant son up to rule for the love of a dark-haired Jewess; while the blond scion of an ancient line of rulers in another great nation, forsook the greatest throne of them all for the love of a dark-haired girl from Baltimore.

We are none of us different, in any material way, from any of the rest of us.

"It can't be done here! the people are different here."

That statement, itself, is its own refutation. Because it, too, was repeated throughout the history of earlier civilization. The Trojans couldn't be fooled, because they were different, and smarter -- but they were.

The Romans, surfeited and mentally fat, could not be aroused by the death of just one Caesar -- but Mark Anthony set them on fire.

There are no "different" people. The differences lie in the imaginations of those who, casting about for some reason for avoiding exertion, fall back upon the statement that

"it can't be done; people are different here."

-- R. M. Conarro - Ira Welborn

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NEW YORK HOTELS OFFER SPECIAL RATES TO  
FOREST SERVICE EMPLOYEES

Two hotels in New York City, the TAFT and the ABBEY, have advised us of reduced rates which are being offered to Forest Service employees, whether or not on official business, upon proper identification.

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A PRO FOR ROAD BANK FIXATION

There is probably no forest camp or office in the Region where a heated debate cannot be started on the value of road bank fixation. All will agree that road construction, with its subsequent erosion, will cause the silting of streams. Only a few will question the damage of silt on fish life, but many are the doubts on the value of bank fixation.

Intermittently, from 1933 to 1940, road construction occurred on the Davidson River Drainage. Fisheries development began in 1934. During this period fish food counts were below average, many fish were found in poor condition, and the success of the fisheries' program was mediocre. Road bank fixation was initiated in 1935 but it was not until the fall of 1939 and the following winter that projects were completed on the greater portion of road mileage on the drainage. By the spring of 1940, the improved condition of the fish, fish foods, and appearance of the streams were phenomenal. The 1940 fishing season compared to that of 1939 (the 1938 season was slightly better than that of 1939) showed:

65 percent increase in average weight of fish caught per man-day.

54 percent of total catch as yearlings. Many were just over the legal length. Yearlings had seldom occurred in catches of previous years.

0.7 of an ounce per fish less weight (due undoubtedly to the large number of yearlings).

1.5 fish average increase in catch per man-day.

32 percent increase in total weight of fish caught.

71 percent increase in man-day permits for fishing.

Never before, in Davidson River, had planted fish maintained so well their condition factors during the first few weeks after planting. Poor conditioned fish, for the most part, disappeared, indicating improved food and environmental conditions.

The two floods at the end of the 1940 season could hardly have occurred at a better time. With them went the silt and sand that had been collecting over a seven year period. Fish foods were severely damaged, but they are rapidly on the increase in their comparatively free from silt environment.

Rock Creek, on the Chattahoochee, is another example where phenomenal improvement in the trout population occurred following road bank fixation.

Undoubtedly other factors such as better planting, rearing, and management methods have helped in these improvements, but the decrease in silting has been most obvious. A mulch of matured grass, weeds, leaves, etc., anchored with stakes and poles, appears to be of more value in improving streams than where brush was substituted for the grass and weed mulch.

- - Ancil D. Holloway  
Assistant Aquatic Biologist

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NEW FILM RELEASED

Release has been made of the recently filmed Forest Service motion picture entitled "OCALA", which is a 1-reel picture combining semi-tropical scenery on the Ocala National Forest with the development program including fire protection, timber sales, recreation and wildlife. The film presents an interesting story on the unique phases of the Ocala, and will no doubt prove very popular for distribution to both commercial theaters and educational showings.

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Forest products rank tenth in value of the big ten in farm crops throughout the Nation. Farm woodlands pay their owners nearly \$63,000,000 annually.

THE FAMILY ALBUM

BILL "BRANCHES OUT"

Willis C. Branch, the new supervisor over the Chattahoochee domains is a swell fellow to hit it off with. If you don't hit it off with him, its a reflection against you. The news release announcing his accession reviewed briefly his creditable record from a ranger upward. This story has to do with his extra-official accomplishments, which are equally enviable.

Branch is full of hobbies. He leads an active social life, but outside of five bridge parties, dinners, shows, or bowling meets a week, he doesn't care much about going out, prefers his own fireside. He likes a log fire because it suggests sane wood utilization.

Naturally, he regrets to leave the Regional Office quite as much as we hate to see him go. But he isn't losing us any more than we will lose him; he merely becomes for us a suburban adjunct, an object of visitation, a convenient Sunday destination. He disclosed recently that he and Mrs. Branch have found a house about a mile from the center of Gainesville on the Cleveland road. There won't be any spare bedrooms, but there's a big yard in front with good approaches for trailers. Then there's the badminton court out back where you can play all you want with your own equipment and provided you donate a light bulb now and then. No charge for picnicking in the front yard, which is heavily wooded, but before you leave you should fell a tree and work it up into cord wood as a token of appreciation. He'll furnish the axe. Or, you may bring trowel, cement, rocks, etc. and build a nice outdoor fireplace against your future comings and goings. The only restrictions are no posting of advertising signs or thoughtless strewing of coca cola bottles, and no soliciting of handouts. Bill would also appreciate a few nice evergreen landscape plants in season.

Absolutely this is the most hospitable gesture I have ever heard of. The place is yours to do with as he wants. Willis will offer timely suggestions and will mark the trees as needed. Come one, come all!

-- Chigger Pete

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NATIONAL WILDLIFE RESTORATION WEEK

The week of April 14-19 has been selected as National Wildlife Restoration Week, according to a recent announcement by the Wildlife Federation. Plans are under way to make the week this year the greatest event since its inauguration. Newspapers, radio, movies and many other media will urge a rededication to the task of conserving and restoring our wildlife and natural resources.

-- The Reporter, published by  
National Wildlife Federation

MR. BELL "RINGS THE BELL" FOR PR.

Several weeks ago G. C. Bell, Chief of Maintenance, was invited, as an alumnus of the old Williams Street Public School, by its Principal Miss McCorkle, to give a talk to the children of the fifth grade, who for several months past had been studying trees.

Mr. Bell visited the school early in February, met Miss McCorkle who introduced him to Mrs. Glover, fifth grade teacher, and the 34 boys and girls comprising her class. A short give and take, get acquainted talk was then had and Mr. Bell was elected a Class Sponsor. He left some Forest Service literature and arranged for a showing of a forest film a few days later.

On Friday, February 21, Mr. Bell returned to the school with Ed Evans, who showed "The Tree of Life" and a short comedy to about sixty pupils of the fifth and sixth grades. Both pictures were enthusiastically received and much appreciated. Mr. Bell offered two prizes, one each for the girl and the boy of the fifth grade who would write him the best letter about the feature picture.

The children, for the benefit of Mr. Evans and Mr. Bell presented an interesting Washington Birthday program, including a playlet about Betsy Ross and the birth of the American flag.

Real interest was shown in the letter writing contest and competition was keen. Martha Bryant and Morgan Scoggins, the adjudged winners, were presented prizes by Mr. Bell on March 5 - a book to Martha and for Morgan, an unassembled model aeroplane. The fifth grade reciprocated at this time by presenting an interesting and well acted playlet on trees, their history and value to mankind.

This is a fine example of educational work by a member of the Regional Office and is in line with the objective set out by the Chief - to have each member of the Service conscious of his PR responsibility.

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FOR SALE:

"One pair of crutches - 54" length - 3 point landing - rubber bumper bottoms - tested load, 200 pounds. Split ring construction - George Pettay inspected. Inquire my agent "Chigger Pete".

--"Limpin Lammie"  
Room 301 Veterans Hospital  
Atlanta, Ga.

"MARCH ON"

This is suggested as a new section for the Dixie Ranger to contain case histories of members of the Forest Service from Region 8 who have entered the fighting forces of Uncle Sam. Send in any dope you may have to place in this section.

M. T. Maxwell, the big red-head formerly with the CCC Section is in the army now. He is known as Captain M. T. Maxwell, Jr., Regimental Adjutant of a negro outfit at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He claims that he is actually a colonel because the regular commanding officer has not yet shown up. He also claims, believe it or not, that he is a very busy man. According to him, all you have to do to be made a Regimental Adjutant of a negro outfit is to claim you are from Alabama and wind up ~~the remark~~ with a "suh". If any of you are up that way he would like to have you drop in. The fort is not far from Washington, D. C. He wants to keep up with Forest Service activities, so write to him and tell him what is going on. Good luck, Tom!

- - H. B. Morse  
Regional Office

(Editor's note: This seems a good place to record the fact that Reagor P. Hearn of the multolith room, on February 10 left the mimeograph, addressograph and other related appurtenances to learn about the business of operating the big guns in Uncle Sam's anti-aircraft training center at Hinesville. The Regional Office misses the smiling cooperation dispensed by Mr. Hearn in his work here. We wish him the best of everything that his quiet dependability is sure to bring him, anyway.)

As we go to press we learn that Edward W. Simpson in the supply room has reported for duty with the Georgia National Guard. His friends here wish him the best of luck.

FIRE PREVENTION "MOTHER" PASSES

Mrs. P. P. Tucker, 81, the Mother of Fire Prevention Week, passed away in Dallas, Texas, January 14. Mrs. Tucker staged a fire prevention demonstration with a stirring fire prevention lecture in Dallas some 30 years ago. The lecture was printed and widely distributed, and almost overnight she became a national figure. National Fire Prevention Week was thus proclaimed and has been observed ever since. The Forest Service is one of the strong boosting groups encouraging the public observance and active participation in the educational event. We have suffered a great loss in the death of Mrs. Tucker, but her memory and her life's work will always remain.

-- "California Ranger"

THERE IS SO A DOGPATCH!

Li'l Abner may not be real, but there is a "bona fido" Dogpatch in the so-called Bob Burns country in the western part of the Ozark National Forest. We have evidence from the supervisor's office at Russellville in an informal notice of intention to burn, submitted by a resident of Schaberg, Arkansas to Ranger Curtis and reprinted below.

The letter is dated February 19 and notifies of intention to burn "till June 15!." Evidently the writer had no intention of becoming involved with "the law", and this in itself is significant. The Arkansas State Forest law which requires all residents to give notice of their intention to burn debris upon their own land undoubtedly has been responsible to a large extent for the decline in number of fires in the Ozark in the past few years.

"Fourst Ranger:

"I am claring some land and will be burning brash and logs from now till June 15 in sec. 18 t. 12, r. 29 se of sec. 1/2 mi. west of Shephard Spring 2 m south of Mt. Goyler,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  m east of dog pach on U. S. 71 hiway.

"Burn only whin i can take care of firo."

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ROBERT FECHNER MEMORIAL FOREST

By Executive Order of the President, dated February 5, 1941, the Massanutten Unit of the George Washington National Forest, Virginia, in which Camp Roosevelt, the first of the Civilian Conservation Camps, was established in April 1933, has been designated as the Robert Fechner Memorial Forest, in honor of Robert Fechner, the first Director of the CCC. The National Forest lands within the boundaries of this memorial forest, which total 72,041 acres, will continue to have a NF status, but "their administration, development, and management by the Forest Service shall reflect the spirit and intent of their memorial designation."

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FOREST FARMERS BEING ORGANIZED

Organization of the Forest Farmers' Association cooperative, a group that is expected to draw members from the entire Southeast, has been announced. Membership eligibility requires ownership of four acres of land, and already more than 2,000,000 acres are represented, members said. Aims of the nonprofit cooperative will be to improve forest practices, aid in fire prevention and control, work for more orderly marketing of forest pro-

ducts, encourage legislation designed to aid forest landowners and to foster a plan for forest conservation. The organization's headquarters will be established at Valdosta, Ga.

- - - Associated Press Release

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A NEW NOTE IN PETITIONS

There are petitions and petitions --

From time to time during the past five years there have been received on these four Forests various petitions addressed to the Forest Service, to members of Congress, or to county officials. These petitions were ordinarily used to express complaint or a want, perhaps a complaint that the Forest Service had unjustly charged a neighbor with woods burning or a want that the Forest Service build a particular road on a particular location.

The tide may have turned, for quoted below is a different kind of petition recently received from the citizens of the Geneva Community on the Sabine National Forest, and backed up by 37 signatures:

"We, the citizens in and around Geneva, take this means of expressing our sincere appreciation for the splendid way that Mr. Haile, the Camp Superintendent of this Milam CCC Camp, and his assistants, fixed the impassable mudhole on their road near this place. We believe that it will stay fixed for some time to come. Thanks."

(Time was when the Geneva community did not think so much of the Forest Service or the CCC).

Perhaps older forests, or forests more adept at pleasing their residents, have received petitions similar to the one quoted above. Be that as it may, this was the first agreeable petition these forests had ever received, and because it was a long time in coming it sounded all the better when it finally did arrive.

The forest is addressing a letter to each family represented on this petition saying in effect, "You are welcome", and expressing the belief that the Forest Service and the community can and will benefit from further cooperative work.

- - L. G. Whipple  
Texas

### PERSONNEL CHANGES

Eugene L. McDuffie of the South Carolina Supervisor's office has tendered his resignation to accept a position in the War Department.

William T. Lamar, Equipment Operator on the Oakmulgee District of the Alabama, has resigned to seek other employment.

Associate Forester Harold L. Russell has been transferred from the Pisgah to the Ouachita Supervisor's office, where he is assigned as Acquisition Staff Assistant.

Assistant-to-Technician Marvin E. Nixon of the South Carolina has transferred to the Soil Conservation Service.

Junior Forester Robert L. Snyder of the TVA Forestry Project has tendered his resignation to accept another position.

Probational appointment has been effected for George L. Perry as Mechanic (Tree Nursery Machinery) at the Stuart Nursery.

Adam M. Rader, Equipment Operator on the Pisgah, has resigned to go into business for himself.

The following intra-unit personnel change has been effected:

Mississippi - Under Agricultural Aid Ralph H. Posey from the Delta to the Homochitto.

### THE LOCKOUT

Regional Forester Kircher and Assistant Regional Forester Bishop recently accompanied Mr. R. C. Patterson of the Budget Bureau over the Lake Winfield Scott Recreation Area on the Chattahoochee.

The forest fire prevention contest being conducted in the grammar schools of Buncombe County, N. C. is creating public interest and enthusiasm. Supervisor Bosworth has sent in copy of script for radio program devoted to the contest by Station WWNC on March 12, and advises that the finals of the declamation contest will be broadcast over the same station on April 4.

H. E. Howard has been transferred from the Cherokee to the R. O. as Assistant to Regional Personnel Officer Prater.

C. G. Smith of the Division of State and Private Forestry has returned from a detail to Washington.

The week of February 17 will always be recognized by Ranger Russell E. Rea of the Francis Marion, as his BIG week. Rea had 12 fires on the Francis Marion during that week, 6 of them occurring in one day, with the Regional Fire Officer on his forest at the time. The following day his wife presented him with a new heir; the next day he received notice of his promotion to Assistant Supervisor of the South Carolina National Forests, -- which in our opinion just about takes the cake for a week packed full of trials, tribulations and elation.

Especially missed by her friends in the R. O. and in the field is Regional Librarian Rachel P. Lane, who is sojourning in the "Land of Sunshine" recuperating from a recent illness.

Mark M. Lehrbas has been transferred from the Southern Forest Experiment Station to the Regional Office as Forester and assigned to the Division of Timber Management.

Herbert G. Knoch of the Division of Operation is in Washington on detail for several weeks.

The many friends of Supervisor Gerrard, Cherokee National Forest, are delighted to hear that he is recuperating from a recent illness and is now in Florida completing his recovery.

John S. Abbey, Jr. has been transferred from the Regional Office to the Mississippi National Forests.

Winton H. Reinsmith, Associate Landscape Architect, is serving as one of the judges in the Yard and Garden contest, being sponsored by one of the local newspapers. The purpose of this contest is to encourage the beautification of Atlanta and surrounding communities.

"Tommy" Thompson in Engineering was stepping gaily around the last week in February, passing out cigars as the proud parent of Dwight Davis Thompson, Jr. The young man arrived February 27. The mother of course is fine, and the baby practically PERFECT, the only trouble is with the father! With care it is expected that he will survive. Congratulations, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, and may life hold only the best of everything for little Dwight Jr.

Recent office visitors were:

Washington Office:

W. K. Williams  
E. I. Kotok  
H. R. Jones  
Dana Parkinson  
C. M. Granger  
P. A. Thompson  
Jay Ward and Bernard Frank

Other visitors were:

Assistant Supervisor McKinley, Chattahoochee National Forest  
A. R. Spillers, Region 7  
Richard Kilbourne, TVA  
W. H. Cummings, Central States Forest Experiment Station  
Lovejoy Harwell, Appalachian Trail Club, Atlanta, Ga.  
Carl Bohleber, Area Forester, SCS. Rome, Ga.  
J. P. Nicholson, Extension Service, Athens, Ga.  
H. C. Carruth, Extension Forester, Athens, Ga.  
Lennon E. House, District Supervisor, Jacksonville, Fla.  
J. M. Tinker, District Supervisor, Savannah  
H. R. Bailey, Chief, Farm Security Section, FSA. Montgomery, Ala.  
Julian Brown, Asst. Regional Director, FSA, Montgomery, Ala.  
W. D. Young, District Forester, Ga. Division of Forestry, Gainesville, Ga.  
T. P. Hursey, District Forester, Ga. Division of Forestry, Albany, Ga.  
L. C. Hart, District Forester, Ga. Division of Forestry, Macon, Ga.  
E. K. Pittman, District Forester, Ga. Division of Forestry, Baxley, Ga.  
C. B. Beale, Area Forester, SCS, Athens, Ga.  
O. D. Hall, Asst. State Coordinator, SCS, Athens, Ga.  
Thos. M. Burton, Utica, New York  
A. G. Jacobson, Chas. Lathrop Pack Foundation, N. Y. City  
J. L. Phillips, Forest Products Agent, Atlantic Coast Line R. R. Co.  
Colonel Henry S. Graves, New Haven, Conn.

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## OUR GROWING RECREATIONAL USE

The annual statistical report for 1940 shows an estimated 1,628,116 visits to our national forests for the express purpose of enjoying picnicking, camping, summer homes, and resorts. The Cherokee reports 50 winter sports visits, unique in this Region. This is an increase of 31 percent over those reported for 1939. Of this 1940 total an estimated 80 percent used recreation facilities developed by the Forest Service for the public. 6,155 days use was made of our nine completed organization camps.

Visits of motorists primarily to enjoy the scenery totalled 4,947,875 (an increase of only 65,837 over the 1939 total) while motorists merely passing through the forests enroute, aggregated 34,042,418 - a vast increase over the 26,938,157 reported for 1939, yet an entirely plausible figure considering the number of state and federal highways traversing our forests and the highway expansion programs going forward.

Of perhaps more immediate interest to the forests is the tabulation of the 1940 visitation to certain of our major recreation areas. These figures were taken from the 5 year reports, supplemental tabulations furnished for the Alabama, Chattahoochee, and Pisgah Forests. They are accurate within the limits of the methods of estimation used to produce the forest totals given in the statistical reports. A number of areas on the Ouachita, Ozark and other forests had between 10,000 and 15,000 visits. Limited space precludes extending the tabulation to include those of less than 15,000.

Of the 27 areas listed below, all but 6 show increases over 1939, with one area (Ratcliff Lake) showing no change. Three other areas - Quinn Springs, Boykin Lake and the Pinecliff colored area - showed more than 15,000 visits during 1939 but apparently dropped below the 15,000 mark during 1940.

### USE STATISTICS - REGION 8 RECREATION AREAS

RECREATION AREA	FOR.	C. Y. 1940	C. Y. 1939	% CHANGE
1. North Mills River	Pisgah	80,000	83,000	- 3.6
2. Juniper Springs	Ocala	70,000	54,000	+ 29.6
3. Rock Creek	Cherokee	45,782	10,000	+357.8
4. Winfield Scott	Chatta.	38,120	36,975	+ 3.1
5. Craggy Gardens	Pisgah	43,000	32,000	+ 34.4
6. Clear Springs	Homochitto	42,500	25,000	+ 70.0
7. Boles Field	Sabine	41,000	21,700	+ 88.9
8. Backbone Rock	Cherokee	40,125	40,000	+ .3

## (USE STATISTICS - Continued)

RECREATION AREA	FOR.	C. Y. 1940	C. Y. 1939	% CHANGE
9. Mt. Pisgah	Pisgah	40,000	17,000	+ 135.3
10. La Mina Resort	Caribbean	38,570	21,675	+ 77.9
11. Rabun Beach	Chattahoochee	38,120	46,330	- 17.7
12. Dry Falls	Nantahala	33,418	26,365	+ 26.8
13. Carolina Hemlock	Pisgah	31,762	47,000	- 32.4
14. Pink Beds	Pisgah	30,000	14,000	+ 114.3
15. Davidson River	Pisgah	30,000	9,000	+ 233.3
16. La Mina (R.A.)	Caribbean	29,459	17,159	+ 71.7
17. Frying Pan Gap	Pisgah	25,000	14,000	+ 78.6
18. Point Lookout Resort "		23,000	No report	-
19. Flanner Beach	Croatan	19,272	20,110	- 4.2
20. Stony Fork	Pisgah	20,000	15,000	+ 33.3
21. Bent Creek	Pisgah	20,000	17,000	+ 17.6
22. Ratcliff Lake	D. Crockett	20,000	20,000	-
23. Big Ivy	Pisgah	19,372	16,000	+ 20.4
24. The Laurels	Cherokee	19,000	18,000	+ 5.6
25. White Pines	Pisgah	17,000	9,000	+ 88.9
26. Conasauga	Chattahoochee	16,335	1,000	+1533.5
27. Open Pond	Conecuh	16,283	23,690	- 31.3

--- W. H. Reinsmith  
Regional Office



